



IPC FOR STRATEGIC DECISION MAKING

Training Objectives

By attending this training, advisers and decision makers will be able to utilize IPC products in an effective, strategic and critical way. By the end of this training participants will be able to:

1. Explain the Relevance and Usefulness of the Information Generated in the IPC Products and Outputs for Strategic Decision Making
2. Describe How Analyses are Conducted in IPC
3. Utilize IPC products and outputs for strategic decision making

Sessions Contents

The training will be a 3 hours exercise with three sessions as per the objectives. Each session will cover a series of pertinent topics with brief overviews, case studies and exercises. Specific contents of each session include:

Session 1 – The Proven Success of IPC

What are the indications that IPC has been successfully implemented and will carry on in being highly relevant?

The success of IPC as a Global Standard for Food Security and Classification Analyses can be seen through:

- Its current worldwide application and increasing country demand
- Multi-Partner Initiative and Global Governance Structures
- IPC Global Partner Network Implementing
- IPC Global Strategic Programme (2014-2016)
- Professionalization of IPC Training

Session 2 - IPC is for Decision Makers

Why is IPC so successful and increasingly recognized as a Global Standard?

- Designed to meet decision makers' needs for information on severity and causes of food insecurity, both acute and now chronic.
- Implemented through multi-partnership and government, strengthening capacity, consensus and ownership of findings.
- Utilizes a multi-sectorial approach to analyze food security to produce integrated, concise and comparable conclusions.
- Uses and enhances existing data collection and information systems.
- Provides tools and procedures that simplify complex analyses that can be done in virtually any context.
- Transparent analyses based on convergence of evidence applying internationally agreed standards.

- All major global food security organizations not only endorse the IPC, but also contribute to IPC technical development and guide strategic implementation of IPC worldwide through a *IPC Global Steering Committee*

Why is IPC crucial for Decision Makers? It allows more effective design of programs and policies to meet the global food security challenge of ending hunger as it informs:

- Identification and prioritization of target areas and populations (map & pop table)
- Identification of appropriate types of Intervention (short, medium or long-term objectives (acute or chronic)
- Selection of Priorities Response Objectives (severity/phases)
- Immediate causes of the problem (limiting factors)
- Underlying causes of the problem (SWOT)
- Timely delivery of response (current vs projected)
- Lobbying with assurance (reliability, confidence, quality assurance)

Session 3 – A deeper understanding of IPC analysis for decision makers

What are the essential Analytical Elements of IPC that will help decision makers better interpret and utilize findings?

- Tools, including the Analytical Framework, Analyses Worksheets and Reference Tables.
- Assessment of Data and Analyses Quality, including appraisal of reliability for all evidence used and assignment of confidence level to the overall conclusions.
- Transparent and Effective Process, where evidence and analyses are accessible remotely through a secured Information Support System (IPC-ISS).

What are the different sets of functions that are used in IPC to successfully produce IPC Products?

There are three functions that support the Analyses and Classification of Causes and Severity of Food Insecurity

- Function 1 Building Technical Consensus
- Function 3 Communicating for Action
- Function 4 Quality Assurance

How is IPC analysis done?

- Exercise 1: Using a real case study, participants will review a real country IPC analysis and conclude on the phase classification.

Session 4 - Utilizing IPC Outputs & Products for Strategic Decision Making

How decision makers can use IPC products?

- Exercise 2: Utilizing the IPC products from a real case study, participants will outline the key elements of an appropriate response to the identified food security problems.

Sessions Approach

Session 1 – The Proven Success of IPC

- Presentation
- Question & Answers

Session 2 - IPC is for Decision Makers

- Presentation
- Question & Answers

Session 3 – A deeper understanding of IPC analysis for decision makers

- Presentation (including Q&A)
- Exercise
- Plenary

Session 4 - Utilizing IPC Outputs & Products for Strategic Decision Making

- Introduction to Exercise
- Exercise
- Plenary

Exercises Overview

Exercise 1: Classifying an Area

Participants will be divided into groups of 5 to 7 people. The groups will be given a recent real IPC Country Analysis Worksheet. The indicative classification of food security outcomes and the final area classification, as well as the analyses confidence are erased from the worksheet. The groups are tasked to conclude on the classification and the confidence of their conclusions.

Exercise 2: Utilizing key products

Participants will be divided into groups of 3 to 5 people. Each group will receive a set of products and outputs that were developed in the real case study used in Exercise 1. Participants are tasked to outline the key elements of an appropriate response to the identified food security problems by completing the table below.

Worksheet for Exercise 2: Using IPC Analyses to Design Appropriate Interventions

Response Issue	IPC Product	Key Elements of an appropriate response (to be completed by the groups)
Identify and prioritize target areas and populations	Map and population Table	
Identify appropriate types of Intervention (short, medium or long-term objectives)	Complimentary Acute and Chronic Analyses	
Priorities Response Objectives	IPC Phase Description and respective Priority Response Objective	
Address immediate causes of the problem	Limiting Factors Matrix	
Dealing with underlying causes	SWOT Analyses	
Delivery of timely response	Use of Projections	
Lobby with Assurance	Reliability, confidence, quality assurance	

Background Reading Materials

Participants will receive in advance a set of background reading materials to provide a basic overview of what IPC is; some of the latest technical developments IPC; and the current status of IPC implementation and institutionalization in different regions around the world.

IPC Brief Series: These are short 2-4 page briefs and there are currently 12 issues in the series:

- 1. What is IPC, 2011*
- 2. IPC for Decision Making in Developmental Contexts, 2011*
- 3. What is new in V 2.0 IPC, 2011*
- 4. NEW IPC Information System Support*
- 5. NEW IPC Certification Programme*
- 6. NEW IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Phase Classification*
- 7. NEW IPC in Eastern and Central Africa*
- 8. NEW IPC in Asia - 2013*
- 9. NEW IPC in Central America and Caribbean - 2013*
- 10. NEW IPC in West Africa - 2013*
- 11. NEW IPC in Southern Africa - 2013*
- 12. NEW IPC Global - 2013*

NEW IPC Newsletter: IPC Worldwide Quarterly News, Views and Information

Contains a regular section on *Global News and Features* covering the latest updates on IPC technical developments, partner collaboration, and reports from the *IPC Global Steering Committee* and *IPC Technical Advisory Committee (IPC TAG)*. There is also a regular section of Updates from the Regions (East and Central Africa, West Africa, Southern Africa, Latin America, North Africa and Near East, and Asia). There is a section for each region with updates and information on Upcoming IPC Events, IPC Resources and feature stories. You can also sign up to regularly receive the Newsletter.

1. *IPC Newsletter: IPC Worldwide Quarterly News, Views and Information*
 - a. *June 2013*
 - b. *November 2013*

For more information IPC and resource material, including access to the full ***IPC Technical Manual Version 2.0***, there is the official IPC website: www.ipcinfo.org